



PORSCHE

Press Release

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IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship, The Roar before the Rolex 24, Daytona/USA – Day 3

Successful Daytona test for the new 911 RSR

Stuttgart. The 2017 motorsport season can begin: The Porsche GT Team is well prepared for the 24 Hours of Daytona – the season-opening round of the IMSA SportsCar Championship in the USA and Canada. The factory squad used this weekend's official test, "The Roar before the Rolex 24", to setup the new 911 RSR for its race debut at the world famous long distance classic in Florida on 28/29 January. Under changeable weather conditions, the 911 RSR racers with the starting numbers 911 and 912 covered a total of 2,936 kilometres on the Daytona International Speedway, the legendary racetrack characterised by its fast banked corners and a tight infield. Six works drivers took part in the Daytona tests for the Porsche GT Team, as well as another five who will tackle the traditional season opener for various customer teams with the Porsche 911 GT3 R.

Many avid sports car fans witnessed the test drive of the new 911 RSR, which Porsche will campaign this season in both IMSA SportsCar Championship and the Sports Car World Endurance Championship WEC. The successor to the most successful GT race car of the last years, which secured no less than 22 victories and eight championship titles between 2013 and 2016, is a completely new development: the suspension, body structure, aerodynamic concept, engine and transmission have all been designed from scratch. Depending on the size of the restrictor, the motor, which is now positioned in front of the rear axle, puts out around 375 kW (510 hp). Thanks to the modern, lightweight normally-aspirated engine, the designers were able to install a particularly large rear diffuser. Combined with a top-mounted rear

wing, the level of downforce and the aerodynamic efficiency were significantly improved.

Another new feature in the 911 RSR is the so-called "Collision Avoid System". Even in the dark, with this radar-supported collision warning system, the faster LMP prototypes are detected early enough and misunderstandings can be avoided. A new safety cage concept and a new, rigidly-mounted racing seat further enhance driver safety. With the seat fixed to the chassis, the pedalry can now be moved and adjusted to fit the driver. Significant improvements have been made to the serviceability of the 911 RSR, which competes for the first time at Daytona with a new factory design: This has further developed the clear and dynamic design language of Porsche Motorsport. From a bird's eye perspective, a hint of the Porsche emblem silhouette can be seen. The basic colours remain white, red and black.

Over the three test days, Patrick Pilet (France), Dirk Werner (Germany) and Frédéric Makowiecki (France) completed 1,431 kilometres on the Daytona International Speedway at the wheel of the #911 Porsche 911 RSR. Their team colleagues Kévin Estre (France), Laurens Vanthoor (Belgium) and Richard Lietz (Austria) covered 1,505 kilometres in the sister 911 RSR with the starting number 912. Driving for the Porsche GT Team, these driver trios will tackle both the 24 Hours of Daytona and the Sebring 12-hour race on 18 March, the second major long distance classic of IMSA SportsCar Championship. The Porsche factory pilots Wolf Henzler (Germany/TRG), Jörg Bergmeister (Germany/Park Place Motorsports), Patrick Long (USA/Core Autosport), Michael Christensen (Denmark/Alegria Motorsports) and Sven Müller (Germany/Manthey Racing) conducted the Daytona test in the Porsche 911 GT3 R for various customer teams, for whom they will also contest the race. For Dirk Werner, Laurens Vanthoor and Sven Müller, the 24 Hours of Daytona has a very special meaning: It marks their first race as Porsche works drivers.

"The test kilometres that we covered over the last three days in preparation for the race were very important," said Marco Ujhasi, Overall Project Leader GT Works Mo-

torsport. “We managed to tick off all the points we’d scheduled for ourselves and now we have a much better understanding of the car on this racetrack. In addition, we experienced changeable and very diverse track conditions. It was dry and wet, warm and cold – precisely what you need in race preparations to be primed for all eventualities. We feel very well prepared for the race and the premiere of our new 911 RSR. In this respect, these three days in Florida were very successful.”

This is the IMSA SportsCar Championship

The IMSA SportsCar Championship is a sports car race series contested in the USA and Canada, which was run in 2014 for the first time. The series was formed from the merger of the American Le Mans Series and the Grand-Am Series. Sports prototypes and sports cars start in four different classes: GTLM (GT Le Mans), GTD (GT Daytona), P (Prototype) and PC (Prototype Challenge). The Porsche 911 RSR runs in the GTLM class, with the Porsche 911 GT3 R contesting the GTD class.

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Please note: Photo and video material from the IMSA SportsCar Championship is available for journalists from the Porsche Press Database on <https://presse.porsche.de>. The Twitter channel @PorscheRaces provides live updates with the latest information and photos from race tracks around the world. Journalists also have access to the digital Porsche Motorsport Media Guide on <https://presse.porsche.de/motorsport>. Porsche Communication provides a new service for journalists, bloggers and online multipliers under www.newsroom.porsche.com. Up-to-date video news can be downloaded from www.vimeo.com/porschenewsroom.

